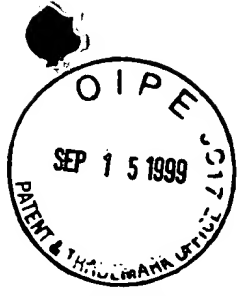


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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
TOSHIAKI IGARASHI ET AL.) : Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: 09/017,295) : Group Art Unit: 2787
Filed: February 2, 1998) :
For: NETWORK DATA BASE) :
CONTROL DEVICE AND) :
METHOD THEREOF) : Date: September 14, 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed.

Each item of information in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart European application. A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed.

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It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

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/pap